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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/786,104 | 02/26/2004 | Yasutaka Ishii | 3273-0185P | 4256 |
| 2292 | 7590 | 05/30/2006 | [REDACTED] | EXAMINER |
| BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747 | | | PUTTLITZ, KARL J | |
| | | | [REDACTED] | ART UNIT |
| | | | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1621 | |

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/786,104 | ISHII ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Karl J. Puttlitz | 1621 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 5-7 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 and 5-7 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The rejection under section 112, first paragraph is withdrawn since applicant has amended the claims to provide ^{for} specific structures. In addition, Those of ordinary skill would have expected that the inventors would have been in possession of other "organic groups" given the state of the art and the structures given in the specification. Moreover, those of ordinary skill would have been able to make the invention with specific organic groups without undue experimentation given the state of the art, and description in the specification.

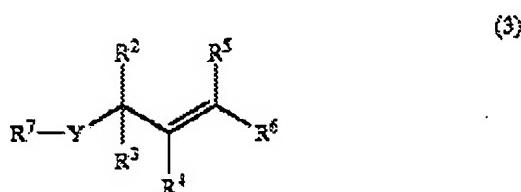
The outstanding rejection under section 102 is maintained. Applicant's remarks in connection with this ground of rejection are also addressed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

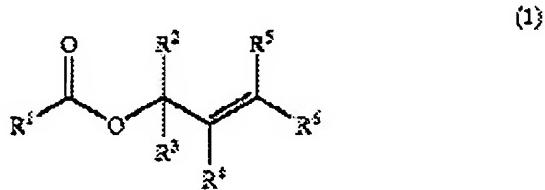
(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1, 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by WO 2004013076 (WO 076).

Claim 1 is drawn to a process for producing an allyl-containing compound represented by following Formula (3):



the process comprising the step of reacting an allyl ester compound represented by following Formula (1):



with a compound represented by following Formula (2):



in the presence of a catalytic amount of an iridium compound.

Claim 4 covers those embodiments of claim 1 wherein the compound represented by Formula (2) is one selected from the group consisting of alcohols, phenols, thiol compounds, carboxylic acids and thiocarboxylic acids.

Claims 5 and 6 cover those embodiments wherein the iridium compound is an organic iridium complex, and specifically a cationic iridium complex.

WO 076 teaches, in example 10, that phenyl allyl ether was prepared from phenol and allyl acetate using a homogeneous iridium catalyst . Specifically, a solution of phenol, (Ir (COD)₂)⁺ BF₄⁻ and allyl acetate was reacted and analysis showed that the conversion to phenyl allyl ether is 29 percent. The foregoing anticipates the rejected claims within the meaning of section 102.

Applicant argues that the instant claims do not include phenol reactants. However, the claims recite alcohols, and phenol is clearly an alcohol.

The outstanding rejection under section 103 is maintained:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 076.

Claim 7 is drawn to specific iridium complexes. WO 076 fails to specifically mention the specific iridium complexes recited in the claim. However, WO 076 teaches complexes such as CpRuCl (dppe). Those of ordinary skill would be motivated to substitute iridium for Ru in the disclosed complexes since WO 076 particularly states that iridium is a preferred metal in the catalyst complexes, see page 25 (top). Accordingly, the recited iridium complexes are within the motivation of those of ordinary skill, and therefore, *prima facie* obvious.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl J. Puttlitz whose telephone number is (571) 272-0645. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page, can be reached at telephone number (571) 272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Karl J. Puttlitz
Assistant Examiner

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